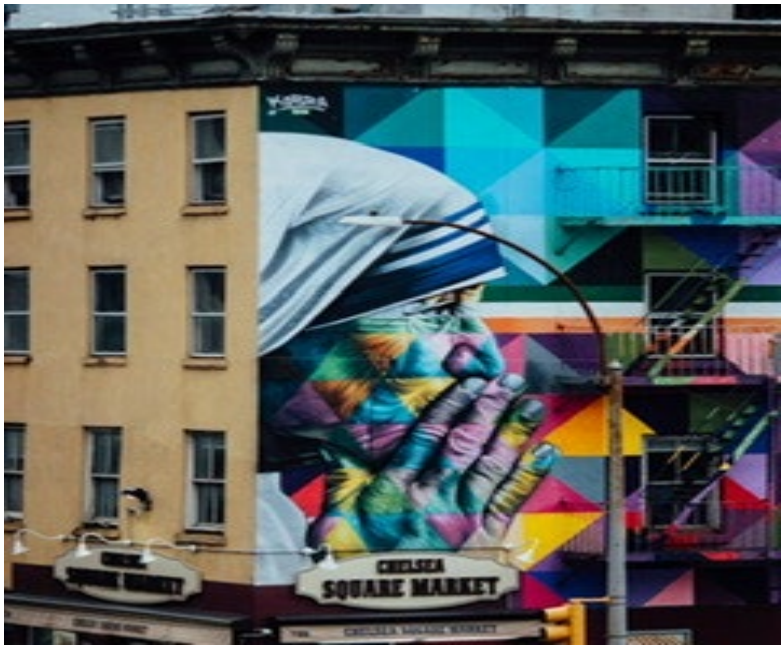
First Congregational
United Church of Christ

111 S. Wallace Blvd. Ypsilanti, MI 48197
(Mailing Address: P.O. Box 980413 Ypsilanti, MI 48198)
www.ypsiucc.org

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice



May 29, 2022
10:00 am

“Love Your Neighbor. . . on the Journey”
Seventh Sunday of Eastertide

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey,
You are welcome here!

WORSHIP ON ZOOM -- Zoom opens at 9:30 am Sunday morning.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7643282234

Meeting ID: 764 328 2234
Passcode: Ypsi1882
To join by phone, dial the number, 1-312-626-6799

- Welcome to Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC's Zoom Worship Service
- Hymns are included in the worship bulletin. A separate hymnal is not needed.
- If you are joining worship for the first-time on Zoom, please add your name and email to the chat so the Greeter can introduce you.
- Thank you for choosing to worship with us today!

OPEN AND AFFIRMING COVENANT OF
First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti celebrates everyone, including people of all ages, races, cultures, sexual orientations, gender identifies and expressions, family configurations, economic circumstances, physical, cognitive or emotional abilities, education or spiritual or religious traditions. All are welcome to participate fully in the life, leadership, ministry, and missions of this church as we seek to grow together in a safe, nurturing community of faith. We strive to demonstrate in all ways that "NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!"

a just world for all
ucc.org

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Start Zoom Recoding to Cloud **JOSHUA CATANIA**
"This Is the Day" By Leslie Garrett

RINGING THE BELL **MARTY KLEINO**

WELCOME **JENN ZIBBELL**

- A warm welcome to all, including first-time visitors.
- As stated in our Open and Affirming Covenant (previous page), all persons are welcome in this community of faith.

ANNOUNCEMENTS **JENN ZIBBELL**

- **COMMUNITY SHARING OF OTHER ANNOUNCMENTS:**
  - The Worship Leader and Greeter is **Jenn Zibbell**.
  - **Jenn** will introduce folks participating in worship.
  - Please share your announcements so everyone can learn what is happening in our beloved ministry community.
  - Please submit written announcements to Margaret Harner, Worship Coordinator, margaretsharner@gmail.com, by midnight on Tuesday.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

GATHERING HYMN *Microphone muted *Standing is optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**
"Sing to God"
23 SING

CALL TO WORSHIP Responsively (Microphone muted) **JENN ZIBBELL**

Leader: Come friends, siblings one and all. Come.

People: This is the time to worship, to sing and pray.
Time to listen for God's voice in word and song.

Leader: Today is the last Sunday of the Easter season when we remember that we are called to be children of God, changed by God's love.

People: Today, we remember the conflicts, the periods of struggle, the poor, the weak,
Those who struggle with mental illness and addiction.

Leader: We have lived in a broken culture; too often blind to the gifts and needs of our very different, and yet alike, siblings of this community, this world.

People: We have been changed, open to acceptance, respect,
truth and just partnership.

Leader: So in our worship today, let us find understanding and harmony.

HYMN *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Help Us Accept Each Other"
388 NCH

LISTENING FOR GOD

SCRIPTURE READING **Mark 12:28-34** **JENN ZIBBELL**

HYMN *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Community of Christ"
314 NCH

MORNING MESSAGE **"Love Your Neighbor . . . on the Journey"** **DONNA EYSTER**

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Pause Zoom recording
*Please turn on your microphone

You are invited to share your joys and petitions for prayer.
Please unmute your microphone to share a joy or make a prayer of petition.
At the end of each joy or petition, please say **"God in your mercy"**
We will respond (with microphones muted) **"Hear our prayers"**

PASTORAL PRAYER *Restart Zoom recording **DONNA EYSTER**

DISCIPLES' PRAYER (Unison) *Microphone muted **DONNA EYSTER**

We come rejoicing O God, even as we weep or grieve, struggle or are afraid.
We are thankful for all that we are and all we experience undergirded by your love and power to help us change and grow.
We celebrate your word made flesh in this community,
And for the light in Jesus Christ that leads us all forward in hope.
Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY INVITATION **DONNA EYSTER**

Our electronic giving platform is Tithe.ly: Link to Tithe.ly

Checks can be mailed to:
First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Thank you for your generosity!

OFFERTORY **"O Grant Us Light"** by Lawrence Tuttiet **JOSHUA CATANIA**

DOXOLOGY *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Take My Gifts" v.2 562 NCH

Take the fruits that I have gathered from the tree your Spirit sowed,
Harvest of your own compassion, juice that makes the wine of God,
Spiced with humor, laced with laughter, flavor of the Jesus life,
Tang of risk and new adventure, taste and zest beyond belief.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *Unison with Microphone muted **JENN ZIBBELL**

Dream God's dream!
Holy Spirit help us dream of a world where there is justice and wherever everyone is free to build and grow and love, and to simply have enough.
The world will change, when we dream God's dream. Amen

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

CLOSING HYMN *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Walls that Divide"
59 ES

BENEDICTION (Unison) *Microphone muted **DONNA EYSTER**

May the God who shakes heaven and earth,
Whom death could not contain,
Who lives to disturb and heal us,
Bless you with power and energy to go forth and proclaim God's love.
May it be so!

POSTLUDE **"God Be with You"** by Jeremiah E. Rankin **JOSHUA CATANIA**

PASSING THE PEACE **FRIENDS GATHERED**

- Share a greeting with others as we transition to our casual **Friendship Time.**

Zoom Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Rev. Liz Larrivee, Pastor & Spiritual Director
Tiffanie Waldron, Music Director
Joshua Catania, Accompanist

Donna Eyster, Guest Preacher
Jenn Zibbell, Seminary Intern
Jenn Zibbell, Worship Leader & Greeter
Marty Kleino, Usher & Bell Ringer

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Ypsilanti, MI 48197

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734-482-6980
ypsiucc.org

ATTRIBUTIONS FOR TODAY'S BULLETIN

- **Cover Art:** Jon Tyson, *Unsplash*
- **Call to Worship:** Donna Eyster
- **Prayer of Dedication:** Bryan Sirchio, *Crosswind Music,* 1992
- **Disciples' Prayer:** Rev Nancy Rohde, 2021
- **Benediction:** Janet Morley, *The New Century Hymnal*
- **Hymn Profiles:** *The New Century Hymnal Companion.* Pilgrim Press 1999.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you, Donna- for bring the message this morning. Sharing your faith, commitment and creativity with our faith community is very appreciated.

Worship next week: Barbara Garland, Worship Leader/Greeter.

Pastor Liz Is On Vacation May 18 – May 31. Pastor Liz is on vacation for 2 weeks beginning May 18 through May 31. During this time, please contact Donna Eyster with any pastoral care needs or pas- toral emergencies. Donna will contact me in the event of a pastoral emergency. Thank you Donna! Donna's cellphone: **734-780-5857**

Our Discernment Work in This Liminal Season: Thanks to everyone who participated in our Lenten/Easter Community Discernment Book Study. God is still speaking. . . and we are listening and discerning.

For several weeks on Monday nights, beginning June 13 via Zoom from 7:00-8:00, Pastor Liz will be leading us in doing the in-depth work in Chapter 6: "Purpose = Identity + Context ± Values". We will engage in the liminal season work described in Chpt 6 (pgs 113-131) on clarifying our congregational purpose, identity, context, and values. It will be helpful preparation to re- read Chap- ter 6 before we will begin this in-depth conversation to weave together the key take- aways from both the Sunday and Tuesday book study groups.

Pastor Liz's Summer Schedule: Between June 1 and September 15, Pastor Liz will be pastoring remotely from Traverse City as outlined in her call agreement.

During this time, please continue to let her know of your pastoral care needs and/or pastoral care emergencies. The best way to reach her is via text and/or phone call. (734-358-6108). In the event of a pastoral care emergency, Pastor Liz will return to Ypsilanti to provide support.

Sunday worship will be on Zoom-only May 29 through September. This information has been added to our church website.

Fall Hybrid Worship Kick-Off Sunday: September 18. Combined Zoom and in- person worship will resume in our sanctuary on Sunday, September 18 at 10:00 am.

Fall Pet Blessing Ceremony: September 25 at 2:00 pm: This fun family and pet friendly service will be held outdoors (weather permitting) in the park next to the church. UCC Member in Discernment (MID) and Seminary Intern, Jenn Zibbell, is team leader for this service. Please contact Jenn if you would like to help with planning and hosting. More details will be announced over the summer.

Kroger Fundraiser: Have you registered your Kroger card? We get a small check every quarter for purchases made using your card when it's registered. It's a simple process. Go to Kroger.com and click "**Register**" and follow the prompts to register your frequent shopper card number. Then link to the **Community Rewards** site and register with our church. Our number is **83262**, or you can find our name in the drop-do n list. Any Questions: contact Barbara Garland at bargarland@yahoo.comor 734-662-5803

By

OUR CHURCH'S MISSIONS

THE BEACON CENTER

The **Beacon Center** is the newest community social justice of the Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC. As a light to all persons, the Beacon Center's ministry will support the spiritual formation, creative expression, overall thriving and advocacy of at-risk students of all ages, including those affiliated with three primary local institutions of higher learning: Eastern Michigan University, Washtenaw Community College and University of Michigan. In the Spirit of the UCC moto, "That They All Shall Be One", Beacon Center serves as a uniting and unifying umbrella across our congregation serving persons sources through our three other community social justice ministry networks. Those ministries (each detailed below) include WICIR (Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights) serving the immigrant communities, MI-ONA (Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition) serving LGTBQ+ persons, and WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition) which brings together faith, labor and community organizations to address local issues.

The Beacon Center is committed to advocate for self-determination and education for all people, especially students living in poverty, persons of color experiencing racism, and other de-humanizing circumstances and conditions. Beacon Center's student demographics include persons of color, immigrants, minorities, LGTBQ+ folk, women, those with special needs, the economically disadvantaged, those facing housing insecurity, the financially challenged, and the working poor. For additional information on the Beacon Center, please contact Rev. Liz Larrivee at lizlarrivee@gmail.com

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY – WASHTENAW INTERFAITH COALITION FOR IMMIGRANT RIGHTS (WICIR)

Since 2008, **WICIR** has been working with, and in support of, immigrants in Washtenaw County facing challenges of many kinds. At our inception the primary need that brought us together was to support people facing enforcement action by ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement); most often detention, deportation, and removal. To date, WICIR has responded to 650 calls. Always in partnership with folks most affected, many actions and services have evolved as identified by our immigrant siblings, while always keeping focused on our original mission:

To provide culturally sensitive and supportive urgent response to those in Washtenaw County in immigration-related crises; impact local governmental policies to empower and protect immigrant community members; and work toward humane national immigration reform.

Our outreach has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many in immigrant communities have experienced significant challenges as they struggle to pay rent, provide food for their families and other basic survival needs. To respond, WICIR, in partnership with Mexiquenses in Michigan (from St. Francis of Assisi Parish), has raised and distributed $200,000 relief funds to immigrants and their families. We have a waiting list of those still in need and will continue this effort as funds are available.

For information about what's happening with immigrant rights and **Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights**, or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Melanie Harner at melharner@gmail.com or through the WICIR website: https://wicir.org/. You can also find a link on the church website.

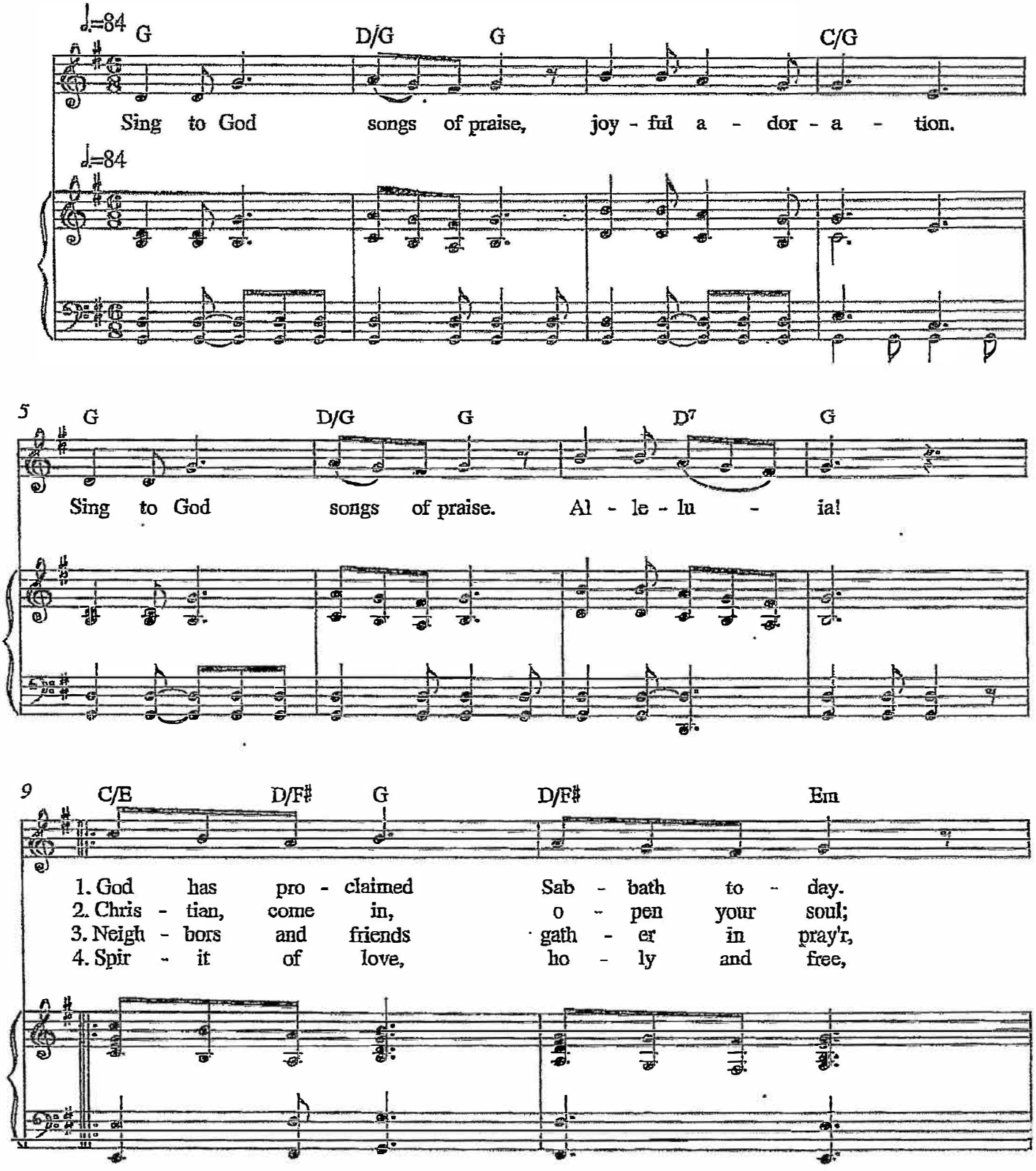
WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION

First Congregational is a founding institution of the local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition)**. In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. WeROC members are, at our core, focused on intentionally re-weaving the frayed fabric of community at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated. Especially in this time when so many are being hit by the health and economic crises, WeROC's focus on raising voices of those most affected is more important than ever (See COVID-19 Resources at www.werocmi.org) WeROC's Mission Statement is:

WeROC brings together faith, labor, community organizations, and individuals to build the healthy collective power needed to break down the systems that sustain injustice, racism, and economic inequality.

WeROC is affiliated with the Detroit Metro organization MOSES and the Gamliel National Network. Contact Tad Wysor at tadwysor@gmail.com or 734-883-3225.

This past election year showed us good things can happen when we're working together in the same direction. WeROC is moving rapidly **forward** to keep momentum going and find ways to continue to be more effective together in making our communities healthier and more vibrant places; improving the lives of *everyone* in big ways-- especially those who are most vulnerable and whose voice have seldom been heard.

Sing to God

♩=84
G
D/G
G
C/G
Sing to God songs of praise, joy - ful a - dor - a - tion.
5
G
D/G
G
D7
G
Sing to God songs of praise. Al - le - lu - ia!
9
C/E
D/F♯
G
D/F♯
Em
1. God has pro - claimed Sab - bath to - day.
2. Chris - tian, come in, o - pen your soul;
3. Neigh - bors and friends gath - er in pray'r,
4. Spir - it of love, ho - ly and free,

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2

11 Am7 Gsus2/B Asus2/C♯ D D7 G

Let the friends of Je - sus say: Sing to God
God's pure love can make us whole.
grace to know and faith to share.
fill our hearts as ev - er we:

15 D/G G C/G

songs of praise, joy - ful a - dor - a - tion.

18 G D/G G D7 G

Sing to God songs of praise. Al - le - lu - ia!

Help Us Accept Each Other

388

Fred Kaan, 1974; alt.

John 15:12; 17:20–23; Eph. 4:1–6, 11–16

1 Help us ac-cept each oth-er
as Christ ac-cept-ed us;
teach us as sis-ter, broth-er,
each sib-ling to em-brace.
Be pres-ent, God, a-mong us,
and bring us to be-lieve
we are our-selves ac-cept-ed
and meant to love and live.

2 Teach us, O God, your les-sons,
as in our dai-ly life
we strug-gle to be hu-man
and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for peo-ple,
for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them,
or as they may be-come.

3 Let your ac-cep-tance change us,
so that we may be moved
in liv-ing sit-u-a-tions
to do the truth in love;
To prac-tice your ac-cep-tance,
un-til we know by heart
the ta-ble of for-give-ness
and laugh-ter's heal-ing art.

4 God, for to-day's en-coun-ters
with all who are in need,
who hun-ger for ac-cep-tance,
for righ-teous-ness and bread,
Bring us new eyes for see-ing,
new hands for hold-ing on;
re-new us with your Spir-it;
God! Free us, make us one!

Dutch theologian Fred Kaan was ordained in the United Reformed Church in England and Wales and has served as an international church administrator. Author of more than 200 hymns, Kaan frequently has addressed contemporary issues in his texts.

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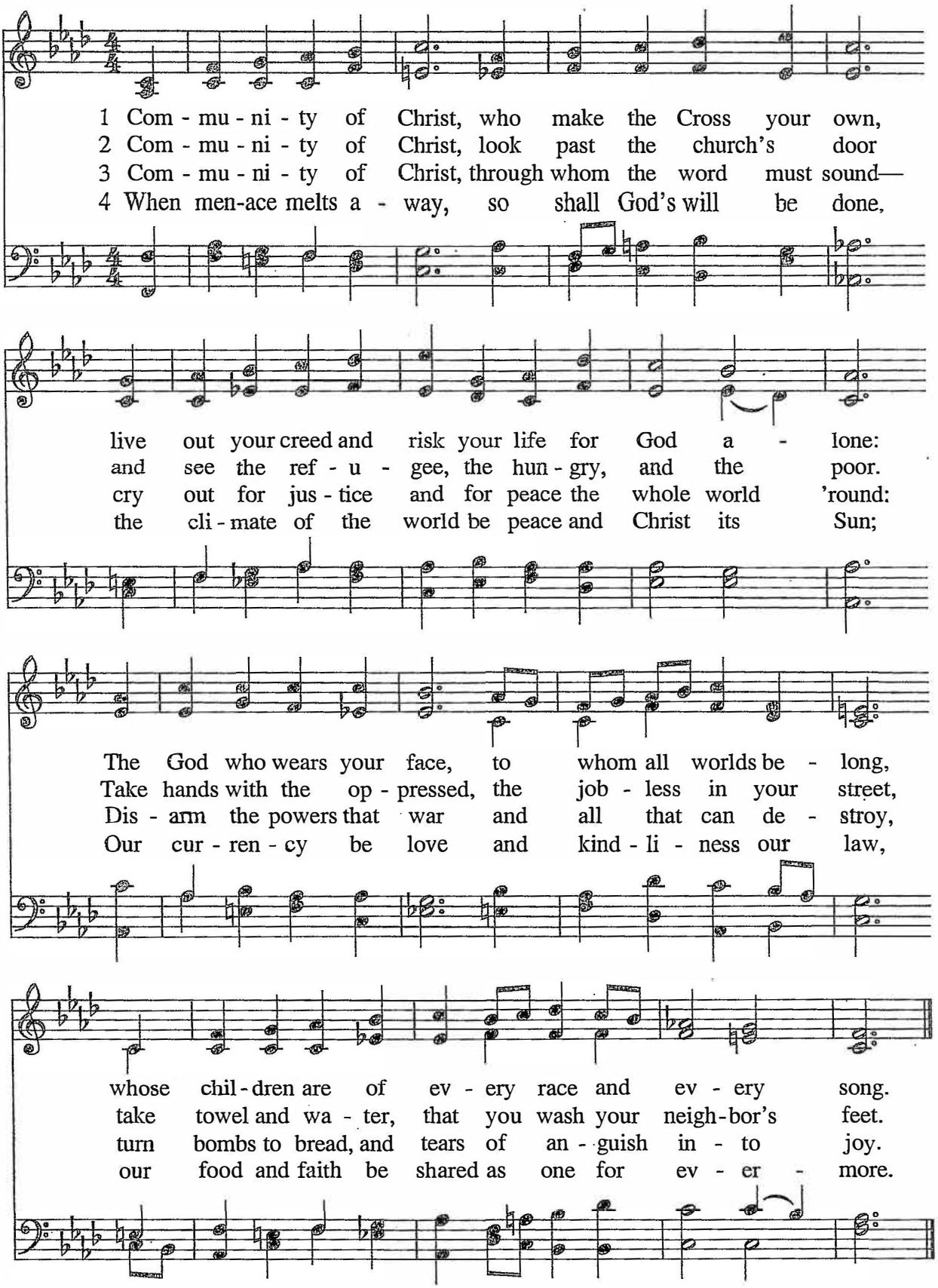
Tune: AURELIA 7.6.7.6:D.
Samuel S. Wesley, 1864

Community of Christ

314

Shirley Erena Murray, 1985

1 Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, who make the Cross your own,
2 Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, look past the church's door
3 Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, through whom the word must sound—
4 When men-ace melts a - way, so shall God's will be done,
live out your creed and risk your life for God a - lone:
and see the ref - u - gee, the hun - gry, and the poor.
cry out for jus - tice and for peace the whole world 'round:
the cli - mate of the world be peace and Christ its Sun;
The God who wears your face, to whom all worlds be - long,
Take hands with the op - pressed, the job - less in your street,
Dis - arm the powers that war and all that can de - stroy,
Our cur - ren - cy be love and kind - li - ness our law,
whose chil - dren are of ev - ery race and ev - ery song.
take towel and wa - ter, that you wash your neigh - bor's feet.
turn bombs to bread, and tears of an - guish in - to joy.
our food and faith be shared as one for ev - er - more.

Shirley Erena Murray has grown up within the Ecumenical Movement and addresses related themes such as Christian unity and social justice in her hymnody. This text was first sung at the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand.

Tune: LEONI 6.6.8.4.D.
Traditional Hebrew melody
Adapt. Meyer Lyon, 1770

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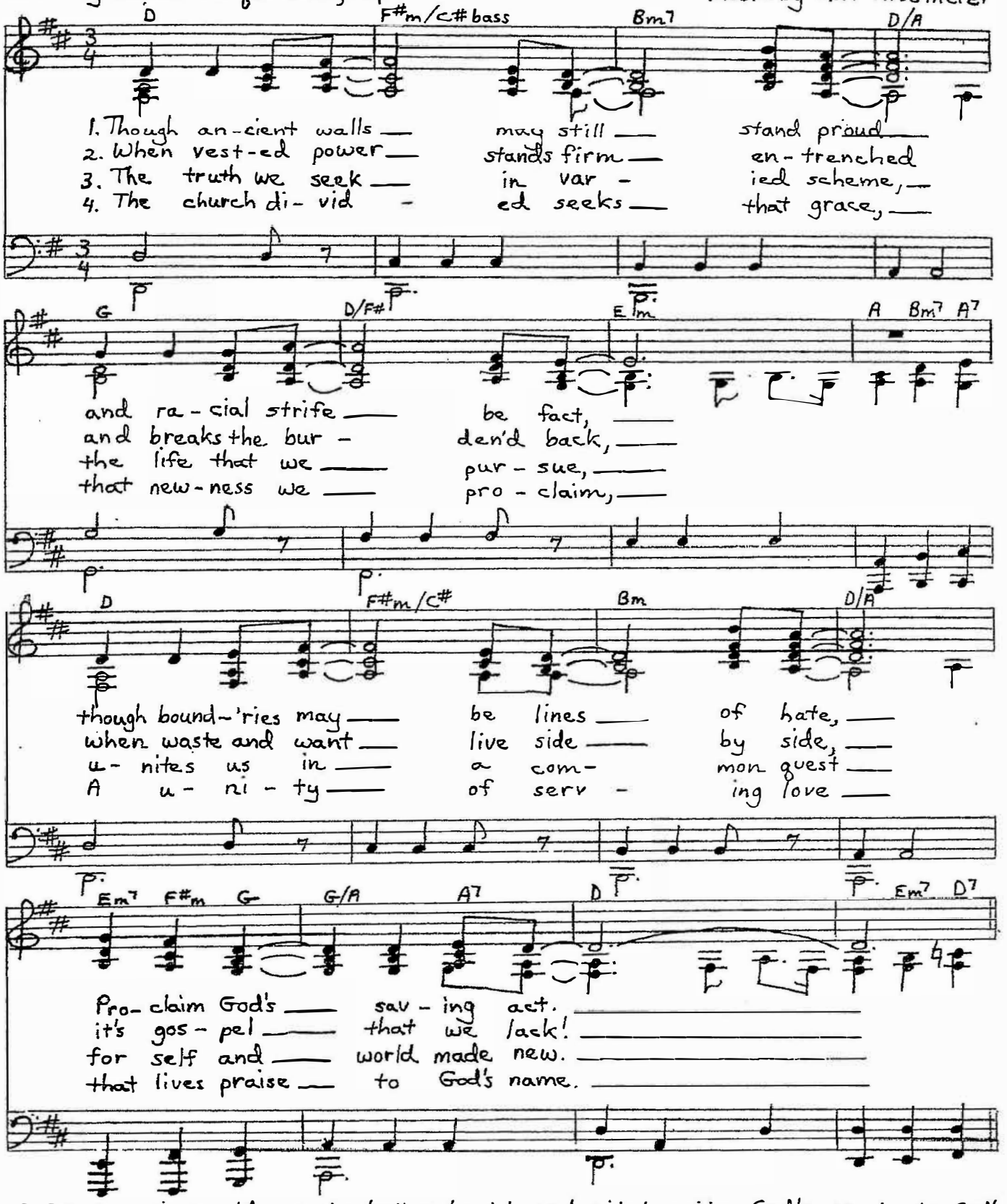
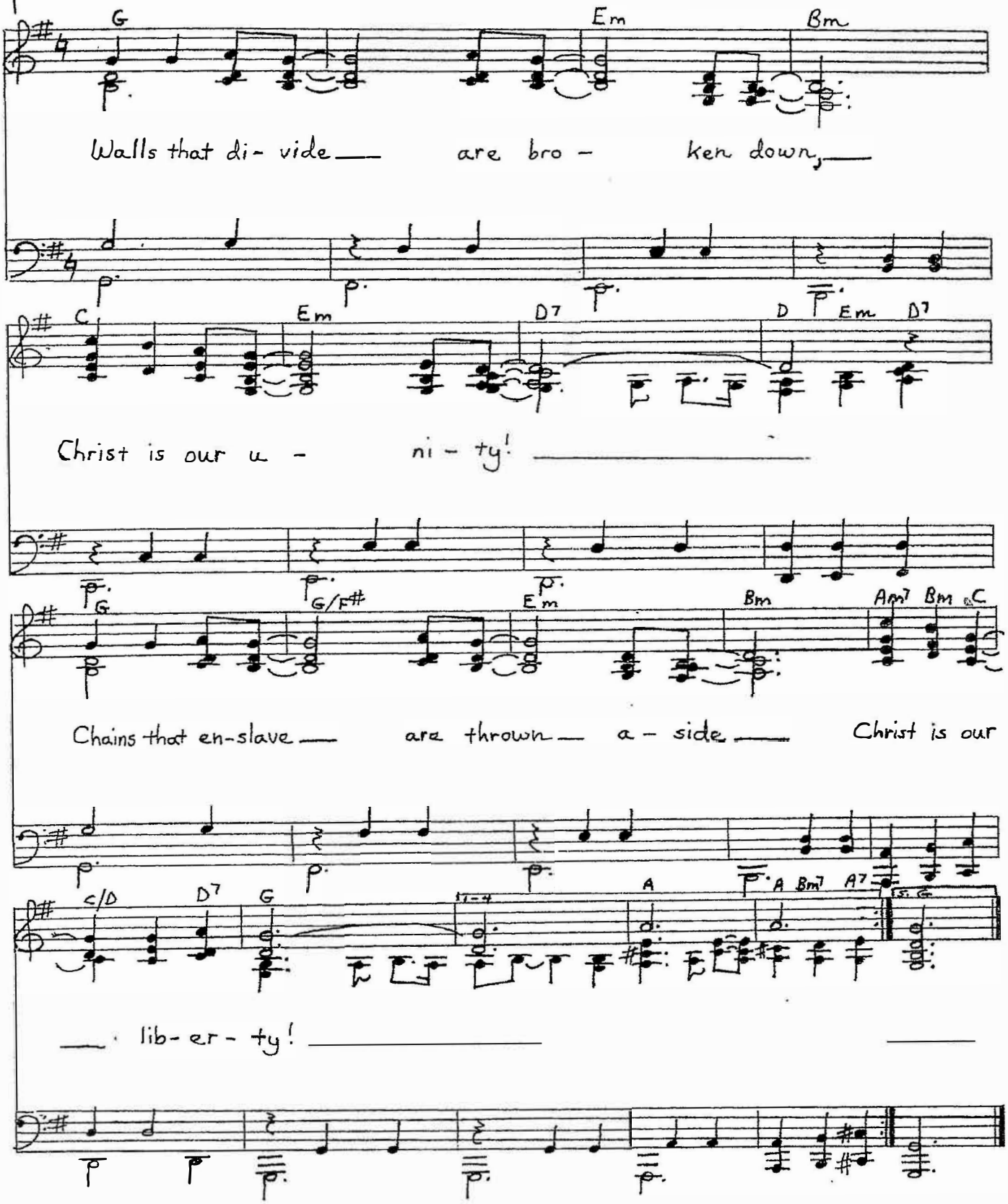
Walls That Divide

Words by Walter Farquharson, adpt. Music by Ron Klusmeier

D F#m/C# bass Bm7 D/A
1. Though an-cient walls may still stand proud
2. When vest-ed power stands firm en-trenched
3. The truth we seek in var- ied scheme,
4. The church di- vid- ed seeks that grace,
G D/F# Em A Bm7 A7
and ra-cial strife be fact,
and breaks the bur- den'd back,
the life that we pur-sue,
that new-ness we pro-claim,
D F#m/C# Bm D/A
though bound-'ries may be lines of hate,
when waste and want live side by side,
u-nites us in a com- mon quest
A u-ni-ty of serv- ing love
Em7 F#m G G/A A7 D Em7 D7
Pro-claim God's sav-ing act.
it's gos-pel that we lack!
for self and world made new.
that lives praise to God's name.

5. This broken world seeks lasting health and vital unity, God's people, by God's word renewed, Cast off all slavery! (refrain)



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